RECEIVED ON 3 APR 1978

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FREE INDIA

FOUNDER : E. R. GOVINDAN

Vol. XXXIX. | Madras, Sunday, April, 2, 1978 | No 29

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Renewal Of India--China Relations

WITH the conclusion of the visit of the Chinese goodwill delegation led by Wang Ping-nan, the Sino-Indian relations can safely be regarded as having the promise of improvement. The icy chill of all these years may now give place to thaw.

Fourteen years ago, many of those who in India today are enthusiastically keen on breaking the ice, were clamouring for a showdown with China when armed clashes broke out along the long frontier and the Chinese troops came to occupy Indian territory. Although no formal cease-fire has ever been arranged between Peking and New Delhi, clashes did not recur though cold war continued over the years.

The Sino-Indian relations deteriorated further when, in the eyes of the Indian public, Peking took the side of all those who were in confrontation with India, and this was particularly true of Pakistan. The Naga underground got the support from China. At the height of the Bangladesh crisis, the Indian move to open a dialogue—as hinted in the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's communication to the late Chau En-lai—did not succeed. It was not that the Chinese had any congential allergy towards Indira Gandhi personally, as could be seen from the warm reception accorded to her by Wang Ping-nan himself during his New Delhi stay.

SURVEY MISSION

It is evident from Wang Ping-nan's friendly visit, highlighted by his emphasis on Sino Indian friendship, that the former Chinese policy of befriending all those who were having any strained relationship with India is now on the process of being replaced by a more sophisticated approach in which Peking counts it important to improve its relations with New Delhi. The initiative for this was taken by India's decision to send a senior diplomat as Ambassador to Peking which was readily reciprocated by China.

Followed a goodwill mission at the level of the Kotnis Memorial Committee's visit last year to China, apart from the table tennis team. The recent trade delegation from China was not in the nature of a shopping outing but has turned out to be a survey mission by the Chinese side to take an inventory of the Indian economy so that this could be the basis for future economic negotiations and cooperation.

NEHRU : THE ARCHITECT

The Wang Ping-nan visit has assumed importance because of the very senior status of its leader in the Chinese diplomatic outfit, he having been known for long as a right-hand man of Chau En-lai. Although holding no Government post, he carried the invitation from the Chinese Government to our External Affairs Minister for a visit to China, whose formalities of course have to be gone through before Foreign Minister Vajpayee actually goes there.

There is little doubt that the warm reception accorded to the Chinese goodwill delegation has gone beyond its expectations, a measure indeed of the Indian people's eagerness to build bridges of friendship with all the neighbouring countries—and China is no ordinary neighbour not only because of its size and importance in the world today but also because of the close understanding that developed between the two great Asian countries in fifties. Those who are enthusiastic today about renewing friendship with China would do well to recall that Nehru was the architect of that friendship.

THORNY QUESTION

The thorny question of border dispute between the two countries is not a matter of easy settlement, and it is equally true that until that was settled, the India-China understanding would lack a permanent basis. At the same time, it would be a mistake to wait for the settlement of the border dispute before cooperation and understanding could be generated in such spheres as culture, scientific exchange, trade and even exchange of experience on agrarian problems. On the trade side, both STC and FICCI are believed to be anxious to go in for fruitful contacts which may come off later in the year. And if journalists and scholars can come and go, it will definitely help to improve relations.

The prevailing view in New Delhi seems to be that there should be exploring of these other avenues of mutual understanding before the border dispute is taken up. In other words, the border dispute may be frozen so that a more favourable climate is created in the relations between the two countries; and when such a favourable climate sets in, it may help towards preparing the ground for the border settlement itself.

MISCONCEPTION

There is a tendency in Western circles to link the Sino-Indian relations with the Indo-Soviet relations. As a matter of history the Sino-Indian relations had its ups and downs on a bilateral basis in the fifties and early sixties without any persuasions or pressures or prejudices from any other power – at least that was how it was taken in India. With the wall of embittered antipathy rising after the 1962 armed clashes, there has been a tendency in the mind of many that in the context of Sino-Soviet antagonism, Peking would not respond to India's overtures because of India's close and friendly relations with Moscow. Many of our politicians were swayed by this viewpoint which was reinforced after the opening of Sino-US dialogue, and there are some who even made the preposterous suggestion that India might ask the US to take up our case in Peking—a suggestion which was rightly turned

(Contd. on page 8)

Sri Balamuruganadimai Swami honoured Sri Ekambaram, President, Iraippani Manram, Tambaram, with a shawl, in appreciation of his yeomen services in spreading bhakthi among the public, on March 20, at Ratnagiri, near Vellore. (Report on page 2).

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

It may be long before the law of love will be recognized in international affairs. The machineries of Governments stand between and hide the hearts of one people from those of another.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

SUNDAY April 2, 1978

Free India

SAFETY FOR ISOLATED BANKS

A daylight hold-up which fortunately misfired was enacted a couple of days back at a small branch of a bank at Periapalayam near Red Hills. At the time when the miscreants gained entry into the bank with the intention of committing robbery, except for the Staff and one or two constituents of the bank, there was no security personnel to question the two strangers.

Being a nationalised bank and that too in an isolated place, it is important that the bank authorities should have ensured protection for its Staff by posting a security guard to keep a lo k out for any threat to the bankmen handling cash.

It so happened that two youngsters aged 24 and 23 came in a motorcycle just as the bank was about to conclude its cash transactions that day. One of the intruders went straight to the cashier and asked him to give a ten rupee note in exchange for a torn note of the same denomination. He was actually bidding for time to see that the few persons who had come to the bank to conduct normal business also left. He then drew out a fire-arm and pointing it before the cashier demanded for the cash box containing some Rs. 10,000. The other person pulled out a knife. The agent of the bank, who was nearby challanged the man with the gun to shoot him if he dared. The gun failed to work and in the meantime the peon who went to the rescue of the cashier was shot in the thigh.

The strangers ran out of the bank in a bid to escape, but a villager overpowered one of the men and in the meantime others joined in the chase to apprehend the culprits. The villager sustained knife injury. A police constable who was passing by rushed to the spot and took the strangers into custody. The bank staff went to the police station to file a complaint along with the arrested persons.

It is amusing to find that two strangers could gain easy access to the bank in broad daylight to commit robbery at a bank without a guard being present on the spot to stop them.

It is a matter that requires the immediate attention of the banks to post guards at all rural banks for the safety of the bank personnel and to protect the bank's cash holdings.

Rural people are usually slow in gaining confidence in dealing with banks and now that the trend is to take the banks to the remotest villages, steps must be taken for obviating the sense of insecurity among the village folk.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AT RATNAGIRI

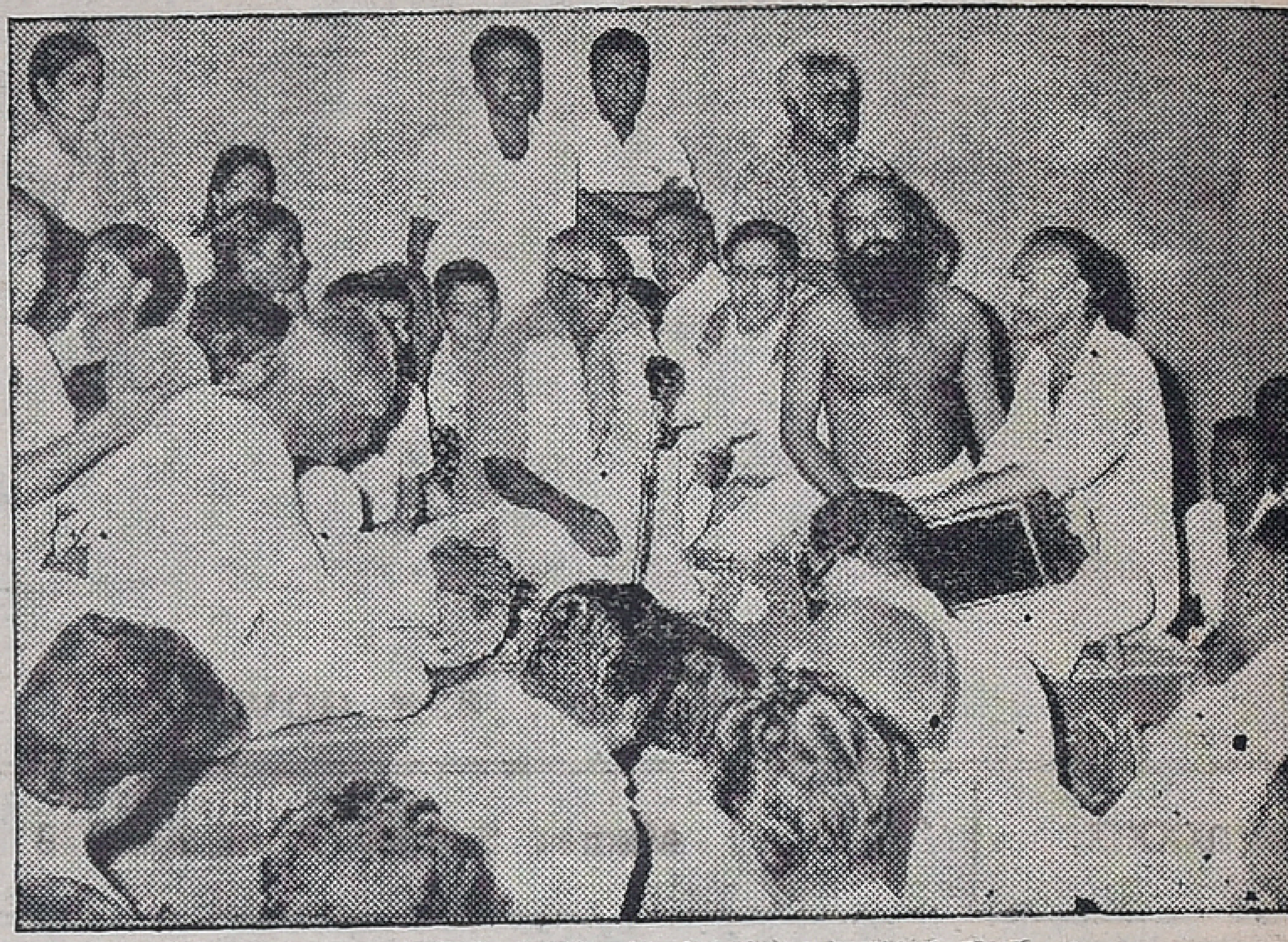
THE eleventh anniversary of the holy day, on which His Holiness Thavathiru Balamuruganadimai Swami was bestowed with divine blessings of Lord Balamuruga, was celebrated in a grand manner at Ratnagiri, on March 20.

Special Abhishekams, Alankarams and Poojas were performed to Lord Balamuruga, the presiding deity of the Temple. Over 7000 devotees were provided with sumptuous meals on that day.

The new building of the Police Outpost was inaugurated by Sri M. Paramasivam, IAS., Collector of North Arcot, at a function held in the morning. Sri C.N. Munjini, IPS, Supt of Police, presided.

At another function Sri R. Arjunan, Dy. Commissioner, HR&CE, opened the sub-post office. Sri M. Munuswami Reddiar of Bangalore presided.

Over 100 devotees, all members and students of "Iraippani Manram", Tambaram, led by their President, Sri T. Ekambaram, arrived at Ratnagiri in two buses to participate in the function. They were accorded a warm welcome by Sri Swamiji, who honoured Sri Ekambaram by adorning him with a huge garland. Later the members of the Iraippani Manram, led by their president Ekambaram, exalted the gathered audience to highest spirits through their rendering of the devotional songs.



Sri Ekambaram and party rendering devotional songs.

The Manram members, who started from Tambaram in the morning reached Ratnagiri via Kanchipuram. They performed the Thiruppadi Thiru Urchavam under the guidance of Sri Balamuruganadimai Swami on arrival at Ratnagiri. On their return, the members went to Tiruttani, Thiruvalangadu, Tiruvellore, and Thiruverkadu where they had darshan of the presiding deities.

Sri Gayathri Swami also participated in this pilgrimage.

OF MEN AND MATTERS

Involvement With God

GOD is certainly beyond man and matter, but the former often involves God in whatever he does. In this context, the objection raised by non-Hindus to holding of prayers by Hindus within public and private office premises on Fridays and on Hindu festival days, will be untenable on any account.

From time to time persons belonging to the Islam and Christian fold have resented to Hindus offering prayers at their place of work. The latest is the move by certain minority groups wanting official ban on the display of pictures of Hindu gods and gooddesses in public offices.

Hindus as a rule, do not compel others to join them for worship and at the same time, they do not prevent non-Hindus participating in their prayers. The same cannot be said of those belonging to the proselytising religions. For instance, in public schools run by the missionaries, the holding of mass before the commencement of the classes every morning is made compulsory and non-Christians are not exempted from it. In certain Catholic-managed schools, Catechism forms part of the school syllabus.

The non-Hindus raise the question: "Why drag the gods to a place of work when there are temples set apart for prayer?" This may sound relevant to the non-Hindu concept of religion, but not to the Hindus for whom work is worship and Vice Versa. In the broader sense, for a Hindu, there are no fixed hours or exclusive places of worship like in the case of Muslims going for namas only on Fridays or Christians attending church only on Sundays.

The argument that India is a secular State and that Hinduism should not be practised in the midst of other religious groups would amount to the negation of the Freedom worship. Let there be no confusion on this issue.

—DEEVEE

TAFE To Build New Model Tractors

TRACTORS AND FARM EQUIPMENTS LTD., Madras, who have built over 47,000 tractors since 1961 in their 300,000 sq. ft manufacturing plant at Madras have signed a fresh agreement with Massey Ferguson Limited of England to manufacture the new MF 245 Tractor of 45 DIN h. p series in India.

Simpson & Co. Ltd have also signed an agreement to manufacture Perkins 45.47 DIN h.p. engines.

Both TAFE and Simpsons are in the Amalgamation Limited group of companies.

The agreement will enable TAFE to build a new design of tractor to supplement and eventually replace the earlier MF model manufactured here. Massey Ferguson has been associated with TAFE since its formation in 1961.

Mr A. Sivasilam, Chairman, TAFE and Simpsons, welcoming the new venture with Ferguson and Perkins said that it would support "our determination to remain in the lead in product development, offering the farmer the most up to date equipment available."

ENERGY:

Vacuum--Energy Of The Future ?

By VLADIMIR LAPCHINSKY

Man has unravelled the secret of electric energy and the energy of fission of heavy atomic nuclei and now stands on the threshold of the peaceful uses of thermonuclear energy. What will his next step be ? Does nature have sources or even forms of energy more powerful than atomic and thermonuclear which will lend themselves to exploitation in the future ?

Within the stars, galaxies, the Universe, processes take place which involve the release of colossal energy. Explosions of different yields accompany the evolution of stars—from the moment they come into being to the closing stages of their existence. The expanding Universe itself is a vivid example of cosmic explosion on a gigantic scale. A boundless ocean of energy is raging around us. But how can we use at least a modicum of this energy ? Up to the present, this has proved impossible : in the study of the nature of the most powerful cosmic explosions man encounters overwhelming difficulties.

Until a certain moment, modern concepts about the structure of the Universe were accepted by scientists. But it turned out that these concepts were inadequate in the study of new fundamental laws of nature. On the basis of innumerable observations, Dr. Victor Ambartsumyan, a Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and a leading Soviet astrophysicist, came to the conclusion that cosmic explosions and perhaps the birth of stars, galaxies and the Universe as a whole, are caused by laws of nature, so far unexplained by science.

MAN'S CONCEPT

In recent years the efforts of Soviet and foreign theoretical physicists have gradually been bringing clarity to the question of a generalized new picture of the world.

Above all, this was due to the broadening of man's concept about the nature of the vacuum, more exactly, the fact that it is a dynamic substance—the ultimate basis, the essence, of all objects and phenomena rather than "nothingness". This substance has extremely tricky physical properties, which manifest themselves in all elementary processes, including the motion and interaction of particles. Moreover, the very nature of particles cannot be comprehended without the concept of "vacuum": they continuously emerge from, and disappear into it.

ORIGIN

Scientists maintain that the vacuum has an infinite integral energy which is, so to speak, locked in by the colossal forces of internal attraction. At the same time, as yet uncomprehended spontaneous excitations constantly take place in the vacuum. Considering that some quantity of energy in this process is spilled out, forming elementary particles—the very "bricks" building matter—the "lock" is not so secure. On the other hand, it becomes obvious that the Universe is just one of the excited states of the vacuum, and all processes in it result from simultaneous actions of the vacuum and matter. It follows that the colossal energy which becomes released in astrophysical processes originates from the vacuum.

FASCINATING CONCLUSION

The past few years have brought evidence that it is a valid theory. To obtain this evidence, it was necessary to discover whether natural processes include ones in which elementary particles are accelerated to the highest possible energies, entering into direct interaction with the vacuum. Such a process was discovered. And recent research has let to a fascinating theoretical conclusion which proved that particles' can arise from the vacuum in quantities which are capable of provoking a major explosion in the Universe.

This made it possible to demonstrate that the source and basis of the most powerful cosmic explosion is the vacuum with its unlimited internal energy.

INEXHAUSTIBLE SOURCE

Science continues to probe into the depths of matter. First physics of molecules and atoms gave man thermal and electric energy. Then nuclear physics and physics of elementary particles brought their amazing discoveries of atomic and thermonuclear energy. New physics of the vacuum is coming on the scene. Great efforts are required in order to discover foolproof evidence that the vacuum is a source of infinite energy, in particular, to explore the potential for its artificial excitation on the most advanced accelerators. Then perhaps the vacuum problem will develop from a theoretical into an experimental stage, offering man an inexhaustible new source of energy.

—*"SPUTNIK"*.

Mr. R. Natesan, an expert in sexing a-day-old chicks, with his Asil Nori cock that got him first prize at All India Poultry Show at Agri-Expo '77.

Sexing Chicks Is His Hobby

LIKE father like son. Mr. R. Natesan is the son of Mr. Ramaswami Gounder of Salem, who has won several national awards in various poultry shows. Natesan bagged thirteen prizes at the All India Poultry show at Agri-Expo '77 held at New Delhi recently.

For Natesan poultry farming is a hobby. He is a double graduate now working as a physical director in a Boys High School, Saidapet, Madras.

Natesan has specialised in sexing a-day-old chicks. He is able to eleminate cockrels from his newly hatched stock with his specialised knowledge. His judgement is correct in 80 to 90 per cent of the cases. Culling out cockrels from a-day-old chicks saves him on the feed.

He sells the culled out cockrels to the tribals who in turn market it for table purposes after feeding them for two months.

Out of the left overs he raises birds for Poultry Shows and for table purposes. About 50 to 60 birds are selected for show purposes between 3rd and 5th week. Final selection is made between 3rd and 4th month. If he is lucky, he may be able to select about 40 birds at this stage.

He used to send the best ones out of the selected forty to his father's farm, where over a dozen breeds are maintained. Asail, Nakedneck, Whit Plymouthrock, White Cornish, Austratorps are some of the species raised at the farm.

Natesan also raises broiler birds. White Cornish and White Rock are the variety he raises most. He feeds them with a special feed available. Every month he markets between 100 and 150 broilers.

Natesan has been taking part in poultry shows since last 10 years. This time also he took part in All India Poultry Show at Agri-Expo '77 held at Delhi and bagged 13 prizes. Five first prizes of Rs. 100 each for cross-bred bird meat pullet, Nori pullet, Aseel Nori cock, Nori cockerel and Khaki Cambell Trio ; four second prizes of Rs. 50 each for White Leghorn Cross Hen, Cross bred bird for eggs pullet, Indian Runner Drake and Indian Runner Duck ; two third prizes of Rs. 30 each for White Leghorn Cross pullet and Khaki Cambell Duck and two consolation prizes of Rs. 20 each for White Leghorn Cross Trio and Cross bred bird for meat cockerel.

Natesan's late father got National awards in various poultry shows. Natesan's Asil cock entered in his father's name at Delhi show in 1975 was declared the best bird of the show and was given President's award. Natesan's father had 40 years experience in this line and Natesan picked up techniques of poultry breeding from his late father.

FUN AND LAUGHTER

CAN HE?

"Is your chief in?" thundered the angry client.

"No, sir, he's gone out," replied the office boy.

"Then why is his hat on that peg?"

"Well he can't stand in the cup-board with it on, can he?"

x x x

TO THE LETTER

"Dear, dear!" exclaimed the sympathetic visitor, "is your poor husband still in bed, then?"

"Well, yes," was the reply. "He's really quite all right, but when the doctor came two months ago, he said James mustn't get up on any account until he said he could, and we rather think the doctor must have gone into the Army".

* * *

TREATMENT!

A man went to a mental specialist.

"What seems to be the trouble?" asked the doctor.

The patient responded by vigorously brushing imaginary things off his arm, explaining "See? I have dragons on my sleeve!"

The specialist, backing away, scrammed. "Well, you don't have to brush them off on me!"

x x x

STILL "OCCURRED"

"On the day on which my wedding occurred—"

"You'll pardon the correction, but affairs such as marriages, receptions, dinners, and things of that sort 'take place'. Only calamities 'occur.' You see the distinction?"

"Yes, I see. As I was saying the day on which my wedding occurred—"

x x x

ALL FOR NOTHING

At the parting of the ways one cyclist turned into a side street, twisting round to wave a gay good bye to his companions.

But he didn't know that during the day a temporary reservoir for fire fighting had been erected there. His front wheel struck it, and over he went head first into the water.

As his head emerged above the surface he was not downhearted. "What a Government!" he remarked, with a cheerful grin. "Free gas-masks, free shelters, and now free baths!"

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MEMORY!

"You seem very quiet tonight Roland," said the pretty girl. "Are—are you sure you love me?"

"Love you?" Roland exclaimed. "Good Heavens. Rhoda, when we were saying goodbye at the gate last night your dog bit a piece out of my leg, and I didn't even notice it till I got home!"

x x x

EVEN BEHIND IT!

The diner, observing a notice on the wall of the restaurant advising patrons to take care of their hats and coats, said to the waiter: "A queer notice you've got there! Do crooks frequent this place?"

The waiter nodded. "A few of them are so crooked, sir," he said, "they can hide behind a cork-screw".

x x x

ENOUGH !

Father: "There are three very good reasons why I don't want you to marry young Montmorency. First of all, he has no money; secondly—"

Modern Daughter: "All right, father you needn't say any more. You'll find I'm a very obedient daughter".

x

"What's that piece of string tied round your finger for, Bill?"

"That's a knot. For-get-me-not is a flower. With flour you make bread, and with bread you have cheese. This is to remind me to buy some pickled onions".

x x x

How many times shall I bow?" said the novice entertainer at the battalion variety show.

"Bow?" said the stage manager. "No bowing for you, mate, you will have to duck".

* * *

"I started to swim across a rather wide pond and when halfway over I realised that I should not be able to reach the other side."

So you turned back?

x x x

"I am going to sue my landlord because the ceiling of one of my rooms fell down without warning".

Did you expect him to give you notice of it?

x x x

MISUNDERSTOOD

In the shadowy tent the fortune-teller gazed into the palm of her fair and fluffy client. Spotting the wedding ring on the left hand, she said:

"You should be very, very happy, dearie. A nobler man than your husband you have yet to meet".

"How absolutely thrilling!" gushed the client. "But when?"

CONTESTING HER WILL

"George looks worried to-day. What's wrong with him?"

"Oh, he's been contesting his wife's will".

"His wife's will? I didn't know she was dead".

"She isn't".

x x x

FAIR WARNING

A widower, confronted by the sad task of looking over the belongings of his departed wife, decided that the only thing he would preserve was a hat which he had always admired and in which she had always looked "so sweet"; it was placed carefully on a shelf and not disturbed until discovered by wife number two, who inquired about it and was told it was preserved in memory of his first wife.

After a time his second choice was gathered to her fathers, and again the bereaved man selected one of her hats in which she, like the first, had always looked "so sweet." This was placed beside the first hat.

Time healed the second wound and a third wife was introduced to his household. She, too, was inquisitive when she found the milinery and asked questions.

The husband explained that the hats had belonged to her predecessors and were kept as mementoes.

'That's all right," she replied, "but the next hat that goes up there is going to be a bowler".

x x x

WHO?

The blonde chorus girl had made quite a hit in America. She was asked here, there, and everywhere, and one evening found herself at a literary supper-party.

With a blank smile she listened to a lot of talk about Aldous Huxley, Somerest Maugham, Bernard Shaw, and other British authors. Then someone mentioned. H.G. Wells, and her face brightened.

"We don't think much of Wells over in England," she said firmly.

"Whom do you mean by 'we'?" asked one of the American guests.

The chorus girl looked at him sweetly.

"Mother and I," she said.

x x x

NO CHARGE

"How long are you in prison for, my man?" asked the prison visitor.

"Two months, lady," replied the inmate.

"What is the charge?"

"No charge, lady......every thing's free".

Sake To The Rescue

In many countries the ranks of drinkers are increasing catastrophically. In Britain, for instance, consumption of light wines has gone up by more than 400 per cent in the past twenty years and that of stronger beverages by 300. Japan has been more or less an exception in this respect, but it is quite possible that it will soon catch up with other countries. Mounting rice stocks have caused the authorities to urge people to drink more *sake* (rice wine). And to make sure they do it, the Agriculture Minister has recommended that *sake* be made the main drink at official ceremonies and conferences

x x x

Lion's Share

A survey shows that the U.S. tax system vastly benefits a handful of the super-rich American, while those in the low-pay bracket bear an enormous burden. "A small minority of wealthiest U.S. tax-payers is getting the lion's share of the benefits from $84 billion in special tax preferences, credits and other tax breaks," the *Washington Post* says. Almost half this sum went to persons with incomes of $30,000 a year and about a third to those in the $50,000 brackets.

x x x

Identification

To avoid mystification and abuses, the Ministry of Justice of Lower Saxony (West Germany) has worked out special instructions for telephone conversations. The Ministry spokesman told a press conference that "it goes without saying that the instructions take the hierarchic structure into account." High-ranking officials must cough before naming themselves, while top executives should clear their throats. To these instructions the newsmen present at the press conference added a point of their own about the medium-level personnel: they groan under the burden of their numerous duties.

x x x

Fanatic Fan

Is there no end to people's adoration of idols? A young man of Florida (U.S.A.) wanted to look like his favourite singer, the late Elvis Presely. So he has decided to undergo a plastic operation. Loss of face in its literal sense is the price he has paid to demonstrate his fanatic love of his idol.

Dear Chop Suey

The owner (lady) of a small Chinese restaurant in England has offered free meals to the person who accidentally swallowed her diamond, worth several thousand dollars, along with his chop suey if he returns the stone. She told police it fell out of her ring while she was serving customers.

MEDICAL BENEFITS FROM SPACE

By

GEORGE ALEXANDER

AMERICA's considerable investments in rockets, satellites instrumentation, materials, communications and the like have already paid great dividends, in the form of secondary applications and adaptations, in such civilian fields as industrial manufacturing, sports and recreation, construction, safety, transport, education, energy pollution control, and natural resources management.

But as important as these 300 or so "spin-offs" have been, none has had the impact on the personal lives of as many people as the biomedical benefits.

Take the spray-on electrodes as one of the earliest examples of successful technology tranfer. These were sensors that picked up astronauts' heartbeats for transmission, in coded form, to ground stations.

BETTER USE OF SKILLS

The electrodes had to stay attached to an astronaut's chest, above his heart, throughout the long hours of a mission. NASA developed a spray gun that squirted special adhesive onto the skin; the adhesive held the pads of the electrodes in place.

By the mid-1960s, a hospital in Califonia was using the same kinds of gun, adhesive, electrodes and telemetry system in its ambulances to transmit a cardiac victim's ECG (electrocardiogram) en route from wherever the ambulance crew picked him up all the way back to the hospital.

Programmed to call attention to undesirable readings, either to flashing numbers of beeping signals or both, these systems enabled hospitals to make better use of doctors, nurses and technicians by directing them to patients only when there was a need. In addition, such systems have shown that continuous surveillance improves a critically ill patient's chances of survival.

But what about the sick who are not hospitalized, or do not have easy access to medical centres? Some communities are so far from centres where sophisticated health care is available that their residents might as well be astronauts walking on the moon.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Here again, space research may have the answer. It is called "STARPAHC," for Space Technology Applied to Rural Papago Health Care. Now being tested on southern Arizona's 4,300-square mile (11,200-square-kilometer) Papago Indian reservation, it uses modern medical systems and communications equipment to make the skills of urban hospitals and specialists available to a remote, rural population.

In effect, STARPAHC is a well-equipped mini-hospital on wheels staffed by trained paramedics (often Papago tribe members). The 35-foot mobile medical van may lack the physical presence of doctors, but not their analytical skills and professional training; that is provided by the communications links between the van and its rooftop dish antenna and a medical centre in the town of Sells, some 70 miles (113 kilometres) away.

As the paramedics examine patients, physicians in Sells listen on radio links and watch over a closed-circuit colour television channel. The physician can look down an inflamed and swollen throat (or any other body orifice) with a special microscope that, using light-channeling fibre optics, relays an image of the throat to a TV camera, which in turn transmits that picture over the van's communications systems.

Interestingly, the STARPAHC concept grew not out of some space programme which has long since been completed, but rather out of planning for future missions, namely, manned interplanetary flights. These expeditions will take years to complete and any health problems or emergencies will have to be dealt within the spaceship.

RECHARGEABLE PACEMAKER

Yet another benefit to come from space research, is the rechargeable cardiac pacemaker. An outgrowth of work done on rechargeable batteries for small, unmanned satellites, which has a nickel-cadmium power source, this new kind of pacemaker can function for a week after just 90 minutes of recharging.

It doesn't have any external leads, as the old conventional pacemakers had, coming through the chest wall, and causing problems of infections and the like. Once a patient has one of these units implanted, he can recharge it—and keep his heart beating at a regular pace—simply by holding the recharging system (mounted in a vest-like garment) against his chest.

The patient can look forward to 10 to 20 years of reliable use before facing new surgery for replacement. Conventional pacemakers had to be replaced every two to five years.

ENDLESS BENEFITS

The space programme demanded—and got—breakthroughs in many fields.

Indeed, the list of biomedical benefits is almost endless:

—A cardiac "sonar" system of sorts, based on a device originally developed to monitor astronauts' hearts, uses ultra-high frequencies to form "echo" images. It is an easier and less painful way of seeing the heart than catheterization, which involves threading plastic tubes through blood vessels, injecting a dye, and taking X rays. The new system is particularly useful in testing newborn babies.

—Enhanced X-ray and ultrasonic images of organs and body parts, based on computer techniques used to refine pictures taken by unmanned spacecraft cameras.

—A solar cell X-ray sensor, built around cells that convert sunlight to electricity for satellites, which can determine when X-ray film has received sufficient radiation for exposure and send a cut-off signal to the transmitter. This minimizes the amount of radiation involved, in, among other things, breast cancer tests.

—Automated diagnostic equipment, developed from systems originally destined to support manned space flight operations, which can process blood samples from as many as 20 people, enumerating such factors as blood sugar levels and concentrations of calcium, cholesterol, albumin, glucose and other constituents. It does all this in 30 seconds, compared with the 15 to 20 minutes required by conventional methods. Another, similar system can analyze a urine sample for microorganisms, indicating which are present in the body and suggesting an appropriate antibiotic drug, in less than half the time it takes a laboratory technician.

—Aluminium carrying cases, about the size of an overnight bag filled with electronic equipment and standard medical supplies, may soon replace the traditional doctor's "black bag". Inside these 30-pound (13 kilograms) "portable medical status system" cases are a battery-operated monitor for vital signs, a cassette recorder for electrocardiograms and electroencephalograms (brain waves); equipment for minor, on-the-spot surgery, and such conventional equipment as a blood pressure cuff and drugs.

NASA has instituted specific procedures to insure that benefits from space research are distributed as widely as possible throughout society. The agency created an Office of Technology Utilization at its Washington, D.C., headquarters and specialists at each of the 10 NASA field centres are constantly watching for other possible spin-offs.

In medicine and health, NASA has set up three "biomedical applications teams" (often referred to as "BATs")—at the Research Triangle Institute at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina; the University of Wisconsin; and at Stanford University Medical School in Palo Alto, California.

Paying Solicitude

Two well-dressed men walked into one of the fancier nursing homes in New York purportedly to take a 90-year-old woman out for an afternoon airing. Soon afterward they were seen solicitously wheeling her out of the building. Some time later, however, she was found sitting in her wheelchair, abandoned at a street corner. Her ostensibly helpful visitors had vanished—together with the electric typewriter they had apparently hidden under a blanket on her lap.

MOON'S 'IRON CAKES'

Ukrainian scientists have offered a new explanation of the origin of the pure iron and titanium on the moon. They think that these substances were formed there as a result of the moon's surface being bombarded by micrometeorites.

In the Institute of Physics of Metals of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, a part of the rock delivered by the Luna 16 automatic probe was studied using a highly sensitive electronic spectrometer. The samples—tiny black grains of sand—were exposed to X-rays and, from their spectrum reading, it turned out that the molecular structure of each grain resembles a "layer cake". The "crust", several atoms thick, consists of pure iron and titanium, but there are other substances underneath it. Scientists believe that this unusual dust was produced by physical processes taking place on the moon's surface. By hitting the moon, the micrometeorites heat up the moon rock to an explosion point whereupon it disintegrates into atoms. These resultant pellets then thicken into particles coated with reduced iron and titanium. If this were to happen on earth, the metals would oxidize instantly, but on the moon, which has no atmosphere, the traces of incessant microcatastrophes remain forever.

A Rummy Situation

Rum costs less than tea or coffee.

This is what the Defence authorities have realised after assessing the expenditure on tea or coffee, if one of the two were to substitute the rum distributed free at present, to the Forces on the front.

Two pegs of rum cost 26 paise since it is purchased in bulk, without paying excise or import duty. Two cups of hot tea or coffee, it has been worked out, will cost 75 paise. This will put an additional burden of Rs. 2 crores per year.

Therefore for the time being the Defence authorities have decided to take up the question of substitution in the final stages of prohibition. —*I. E.*

For The Week 2nd April To 8th April 1978

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

THE whole week could be satisfactory. You will be able to reap the benefits for the efforts you were making for the last few weeks. Financial position will be satisfactory. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. Domestic atmosphere will be pleasant. Children's progress will give you much pleasure. Short journeys are indicated. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 4th & 5th.

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MOST of the week is favourable. You can expect some beneficial changes in office. Superiors will encourage you. Family atmosphere will be pleasant. You can expect the cooperation of your family members in solving some of the problems. Finance is fairly satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Also avoid long distance journeys unless necessary. Favourable days; 6th & 7th.

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Aradra
Punarvasu 3/4

THIS week shows mixed results. You should wait for some more time to implement your programme. The changes you are expecting will take place only after a month's time. You should continue your efforts and try to gain the support of your superiors. Financial position will be satisfactory. Family members will be cooperative. But children's matters will cause some anxiety. Health requires attention. Favourable days: 7th & 8th.

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

THIS week shows mixed results. Though progressive trends are indicated, in office, you should avoid friction with associates. Finance is fairly satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Family atmosphere will be pleasant. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days 5th & 6th.

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

THIS week's trend is encouraging. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. Investment made in real estate will yield good results. Financial position will improve. Domestic atmosphere will be pleasant. Partnership matters could be finalised. Health requires attention. Long distance journeys should be avoided. Favourable days: 6th & 7th.

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

FIRST part of the week will be favourable than the second half. You should try to consolidate your position instead of trying to expand your activities. Finance is fairly satisfactory. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Change of place is indicated for some. Domestic responsibilities will increase. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Favourable days: 7th & 8th.

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

THIS week's trend is encouraging. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. Property matters could be finalised favourably. Finance is fairly satisfactory. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. Domestic atmosphere will be pleasant. You can expect some benefits from the opposite sex. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 4th & 5th.

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

THE whole week will be progressive. You will be developing new contacts. Business will improve. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. Family members will be cooperative. Matters relating to children could be finalised. Change of place is indicated for some. Favourable days: 3rd & 4th.

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

THIS week's trend is encouraging. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. Official atmosphere will be encouraging. You can expect the support of your superiors. Finance is fairly satisfactory. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. Partnership matters could be finalised favourably. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days; 2nd & 3rd.

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana–Dhanistha 1/2

THIS week shows mixed trends. You should wait for some more time to implement your plans. Financial position will be satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. You should be prepared for some changes in office. Avoid friction with associates. Domestic responsibilities will increase. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Avoid long distance travel. Favourable days: 3rd & 4th.

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanishta 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

THIS week shows ordinary results. Financial position will not be satisfactory. Avoid speculative investments. No major changes in office. Domestic responsibilities will increase. You should also avoid friction with elders. Partnership matters require attention. Health will be well maintained. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 4th & 5th.

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

MOST of the week will be satisfactory. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. Some beneficial changes are indicated in office. You can expect much encouragement from your superiors. Financial position will improve. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Health requires attention. Favourable days: 5th & 6th.

Muscovite's Diary

IVAN IVANOV

PEOPLE EATING BETTER FOOD

THE Soviet people are eating better than ever. Food sales last year showed impressive gains over 1976.

There was a 12 per cent increase in the sale of fruit and 11 per cent increase in egg sales last year.

Other significant gains were made in vegetable sales, which were up 7 per cent and in the sales of butter, which went up by 5 per cent, while margarine sales went up by 3 per cent.

Sales of bakery products and confectionery showed a slight decrease as people switched over to higher protein, more beneficial foods.

This year effective from March 1, retail prices of a number of consumer goods and articles of daily use have been further reduced in the Soviet Union. The recent lowering of prices is, in fact, indicative of, and also the result of the growing confidence of the Soviet consumer-goods industry which is marketing goods of superior quality at lower prices.

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MILLIONS HOLIDAY AT TRADE UNION RESORTS

EIGHTEEN million people spent their holidays or received medical care at trade union-run holiday resorts and convalescent homes during 1976-77. Nearly £300 million was spent on improving present homes and building new ones.

These figures were given by Ivan Kozlov, chairman of the management board of trade union resorts, at a conference attended by holiday centre managers, representatives of the government and Communist Party, building organisations and others concerned.

"The unions", Kozlov said, "were doing their utmost to meet government and party demands for improvement in the health care provided...For instance, they were now using the social security funds they administer to finance lengthy stays at convalescent homes for patients recovering from heart attacks.

"Some 15,000 passes will be given to such patients this year, and by 1980 the number will rise to 40,000 or more. Special attention is being paid to provision of facilities for working women, children and teenagers... Additional facilities for another 6,000 will be built by the end of this year. Another 8,000 places

(Contd. on opposite page)

CRICKET

WILLS TROPHY

By P. N. SUNDARESAN

THE first Wills trophy cricket tournament based on limited overs (sixty each side) ended in a triumph for the Madras Test cricketer S. Venkatraghavan. The star off-spinner led the Wills XI to triumph in the final played at Madras on March 9 against the Board President's team. The success should have been full of nostalgia to Venkat, who led the Indian team to the first World Cup limited overs tournament for the Prudential Cup held in England in 1975. Venkat himself played no mean part in his latest success with his skilful exploitation of off spin bowling as well as his astute leadership.

The one lesson that the tournament held this season in the south zone—at Madras, Bangalore and Hyderabad—taught was that even in matches where the race is mainly with the clock disciplined batsmanship and bowling based on the fundamentals of length and direction alone bring success. A glance at the batting performances show that it was the players who had returned recently from Australia who did generally better than their counterparts who had spent their time at home. The effect of playing in the higest calibre of cricket, facing challenges peculiar to it, had obviously disciplined such players.

Of these Vengsarkar, who played for Wills XI, stood out with scores of 58 (vs Bengal), 69, retd ill (vs Delhi) and 76 (vs Board President's XI) in the final. He got the Man of the Match award in the second two matches while A.D. Gaekwad, his team-mate in Wills XI, as also his tour mate in Australia, got in the first match in which he hit up 72 runs.

There can be no more any doubt about the calibre of Vengsarkar as a top-ranking batsman. It may be remembered that this young batsman hit the headlines in the Irani Cup match in 1975 when he hit a roaring century for Bombay against the Rest of India and, after trials in the unofficial tests against Sri Lanka in the same season, toured New Zealand and West Indies as a member of the Indian team in early 1976. From these twin tours, Vengsarkar returned as the "find" but surprisingly was sidelined for the three tests against New Zealand at home later in the year. One could not comprehend the selectors' mind at all because these were obviously the right matches to mould the "find." Nor was Vengsarkar in the team for the first two tests against England that followed but was chosen to open the innings with Gavaskar in the third match at Madras. Obviously Vengsarkar was passing through a bad phase, as the astrologers would have it, because a back injury sustained during the match affected his performance. This also rendered him hors de combat for the rest of the season.

Meantime other contenders like Sivaramakrishnan, and Chetan Chauhan emerged fighting strongly for the opening batsman's place in the team to tour Australia. But encouraged and inspired by his captain Gavaskar—he led West Zone in the Duleep trophy championship—Vengsarkar reached peak form in the zonal competition and clinched his place in the touring party, brushing aside the challenges of Sivaramakrishnan and Chauhan. Vengsarkar acquitted himself ably in Australia and returned home the richer for his experience. What he had lost in 1976, he had regained fully. We can look forward to see many splendid knocks from this young batsman as his upright style and range of strokes is sure to delight everyone.

Just as Vengsarkar was the outstanding batsman of the tournament so was Kapil Dev, the burly medium-fast bowler, who also played for Wills XI, the best bowler. Kapil Dev revealed all the qualities to develop into a top class performer in his class—speed, direction, the ability to lift the ball awkwardly, stamina and aggression.

The inaugural Wills trophy tournament was a success with the sponsors, India Tobacco Company, the makers of Wills cigarettes sparing no pains to make it a success.

FACT, NOT FICTION !

A Curious Experience !

ONE of the outstanding performers in the Ranji trophy championship in the first two decades was S.N. Banerjee alias Shute Banerjee.

This stalwart had a curious experience in the second year of the competition in 1935-36.

He was playing for Bengal and in the season, under review he was in fine form with the ball and played a big part in Bengal reaching the final. Seeing his mettle, Nawanagar, patronised by the royal family, engaged his services from the 1936-37, with which none could quarrel. But when Nawanagar moved into the final to face Bengal, they did not permit Banerjee to turn up for the latter. It must have been galling to young Shute not to assist Bengal, which was obviously weakned by his absence, and lost the final!

There was no doubt that Nawanagar, were carried away by petty considerations, in forcing the ban on Banerjee. Shute was a tower of strength to Nawanagar for many years and, even in his declining years he did yeoman service in shaping Bihar cricket. —P.N.S

RACING REVIEW:

Championship Honours For Single Stable

By SNAPPER

THE regular Guindy racing season, highlighted by the celebration of the Bicentenary Year with a special race instituted in its name carrying the highest stake money so far in Indian racing history, concluded on a happy note last Sunday.

Heading the list of the Leading owner, the Champion trainer and Champion jockey were Mr. M.A.M. Ramaswami, trainer A.B. David and jockey Sexton respectively all hailing from the same stable.

Mr. Ramaswami who is also the Chairman of the Madras Race Club earned a total Rs. 4,93,255 in stake money through his fashionably-bred wards, especially the stock of the 3-year-olds like Own Opinion, Red Chieftan, Fine Future who all credited themselves so well winning excellent races reserved for them.

Own Opinion (Simead—Purita) who ran four times so far in his career, has won every race in which he was entered in such a resolute manner that there is no doubt of his claiming further honours in the superior classes as well. Racing enthusiasts look forward to seeing him pitted against rivals from other racing centres when he runs at the Bangalore Summer Season.

Mr. A.B. David who trains for Mr. Ramaswami topped the Champion Trainer's list by sending out 47 winners. This is the first time that he has won this high distinction in his racing carrer although he had enabled his owner, Mr. Ramaswami to emerge as leading owner on a number of occasions previously at Guindy and Ootacamund.

The first jockey from Mr. David's stable, English jockey Sexton, rode 33 winners (he is now back in England) to claim the jockeys championship.

Apprentice jockey Veeramani who rides for trainer Dhariwal topped the apprentice jockey championship.

After two more racing days at Guindy which are marked for Charities, the Club's activities will be switched on to Ooty, scheduled to begin on April 14.

Jodo Centennial Centre

Judoists in Japan have embarked on a four-year project to construct a new 3 billion Yens Judo Jodo Centre for Kodakan the most authoratative school of Judo, to commemmorate the Centennial of the founding of Judo and Kodokan by Jigoro Kano in Tokyo in 1882. The 40 meter high building, with a total floors pace of 13 200 square metres, will house almost all conceivable facilities for Judo training and competitions. The centre will be capable of accommodating 200 persons. The expanded living quarters will benefit foreigners who are visiting the country in increasing numbers to study Judo.

The Way Of The Sword

The traditional Martial art of Kendo (literally, the way of the Sword) has become a popular sport, that even the young enjoy. Participants engage in Budhist meditation, trying to "empty" their minds in order to gain a unity of purpose necessary for entering into combat. As a sport, points are awarded for striking one's opponent on the forehead, the forearm or the trunk. Real sword play involves cutting. But with a bamboo sword such refinements are often neglected. The bamboo sword is split and bound in the middle and at the tip so as to weaker the effect of a blow. A protective mask and a body-guard an also worn.

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will be provided for children and their parents.

"Last season holiday facilities were provided for 90,000 parents accompanying their children", Kozlov reported.

Over 11,000 more places will be ready this year, 2,200 of them being built by the Soviet TUC's holiday resort management board.

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DIAMONDS are normally formed from carbon under great pressure deep in the earth. But, for years Soviet geologists had a theory that they could equally well be formed by the impact of a meteorite hitting the ground at very high speeds.

Meteorites frequently come down at speeds of up to about four miles a second. The impact theory has now been proved by the finding of diamonds, only just below the ground, in the Popigay Depression in Siberia.

These were clearly formed by a meteorite, perhaps 30 million years ago.

Versatile Jayachitra has come back to Tamil screen after a short gap, when she was doing important roles in Telugu films. She has been teamed with Jaishankar in a couple of films, notable among them is Poompuhar Productions VANDIK KARAN MAGAN based on a story by late Arignar Anna:

FILM REVIEW :

Nizhal Nijamakirathu Is Purposeful

AFTER a long and tense suspense K. Balachander's NIZHAL NIJAMAKIRATHU has been released.

Produced by Kalakendra, it proves to be a nice and purposeful family entertainer.

Coming out of his fictional world, Balachander has tackled a burning and socially relevant problem of the day.

Though the film is based on K.S. Sethumadhavan's Malayalam hit "Adimakkal", it is distinguished by Balachander's touch. The screenplay is smoothly composed.

Two love stories are interwoven in the plot.

An orphaned girl is inducted as cook into the household of a sister and brother in the upper middle class who are deaf and blind to the plight of the poor. Another servant who work there is a deaf youth. He falls in love with the girl at first sight.

The sister is practicing celibacy. A friend of the brother arrives on the scene.

The poor girl, carried away by the sweet promises of the brother surrenders herself to him. When the girl became pregnant he refuses to acknowledge his part in the game until his friend subtly makes him face his folly. The friend also succeeds in bringing the sister around to reality—that she really loved him at heart while posing as if she hated him like anything. The deaf servant gives a new lease of life to the wronged girl whom he so dearly loved. She decides to live with him.

Newcomers Shoba and Hanumanthu (poor orphan girl and deaf servant) steal our hearts. Kamalahasan's portrayal of the friend's role is powerful and convincing. Sumitra is a perfect match for him. Sarathbabu acts as the brother. Moul, in a brief role, is heart-warming

The photography is neat and good.

The film has a very apt and revolutionary ending which may not be acceptable to our orthodox audiences.

Earnings From Films For Good Causes

TELUGU actor-producer Narasimha Raju has embarked on a scheme to make pictures whose proceeds are to be used to render financial help to victims of national calamities such as the tragedies which overtook millions of people in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu recently.

Scheduled to go on the sets some time in May is a comedy film entitled INTERNATIONAL FOOLS. The film's dialogue will be in English and it will be shot in colour.

Egged on by the success of the Western film, SILENT MOVIE, this Indian production will have minimum dialogue except for a sprinkling of English words like: sorry, thank you and O K.

In an exclusive interview, Narasimha Raju said: "Reputed film technicians will be giving their service for this film free of charge. The significance is that for the first time, talented people in the profession are coming forward to do their bit for the less fortunate folks in the society by cooperating to make a film which will earn money for charitable causes. Such an approach is far noble than merely going about with a begging bowl to raise funds".

The idea in making this film in English initially and later to have a separate version in some of the Indian languages is that it could be exported to foreign countries for international showings.

The theme of the film will be to project the futility of mankind hankering after material wealth knowing that such a search often results only in disappointment.

Narasimha Raju who writes the story and screenplay said that well-known comedians from the Tamil, Telugu and Kannada screen are to act in the film and more than anything the highlight of the film will be swift action and satire based on human folly.

The film, to be produced under the banner of Sivaranjini International, will be directed by M.S. Gopinath. Sayee will handle the camera and the music of the film will be scored by Satyam. The dialogue in English wil be penned by Prof. N.K. Rao.

Narasimha Raju's maiden production was the Kannada film SUKHA SAMSARA which had a moderate run. This film will be his second venture.

As an actor, Narasimha Raju has so far appeared in eleven Telugu films, prominent of which were NEEDALENA AADALI (Bachelor girl) and RAMBA, URVASI and MENAKA.

Ten more pictures in which he has roles are under production and five are ready for release.

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down by most of our political parties.

SPECIAL IMPORTANCE

On the Chinese side, the same misconception seemed to have been responsible for the strange expectation last year that with the installation of the Janata Government, there would be a slump in Indo-Soviet relations. When that did not happen and not only Gromyko visited New Delhi but Morarji Desai paid a visit to the Soviet Union, some of the media comments from the Chinese side were far from friendly. However, the Chinese authorities seem to have realised now that whichever party may be in power in New Delhi, its close relations with Moscow are based on very tangible foundations which cannot be wished away. From this angle, Wang Ping-nan's visit has a special importance, signifying the Chinese awareness of the wisdom of cultivating Sino-Indian understanding on a bilateral basis without bringing in India's or China's relations with any third power.

In short, the principle of peaceful coexistence in its true sense can be vindicated only on the recognition of this reality. There is plenty of scope for improvement of India-China understanding provided it is not tagged to the respective policy-stand of either power towards other countries friendly or otherwise. There is no question that a friendly India is as much an asset for Peking as a friendly China is for New Delhi. Every Indian would wish for the improvement of relations, with China on its own merit, a feeling which it is to be hoped Wang Ping-nan and his delegation have taken back with them at the end of their successful goodwill trip.

—Observer in Mainstream

Pramela and Vijayakumar in Rajam Enterprises URAVUGAL VAZHGA.

Printed and Published for the Free India Private Ltd., by G. Rangarajan at the Free India Press, 77, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras-600002. Editor: G. Rangarajan. Telephone: 85304.